

about the health of millions of Californians that are dependent upon a reliable water supply. I'm speaking on behalf of farmers, farm workers, and people who live in our cities.

This manmade—with the aid of Mother Nature—drought crisis will not go away. It could go a fourth year. We are living on borrowed time to fix California's broken water system. Wishful thinking will not wish it away.

With over 30 lawsuits pending on two biological opinions, we can't have the courts making the most important decisions. It is time that we take action. Now is the time for the Federal Government to keep its commitment to being a partner in helping to solve California's water problems. We need administrative flexibility immediately. We need near-term assistance with the Two-Gates and Intertie projects. And in the long term, we must address all the stressors that are impacting water quality and fisheries in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. And finally, we need to increase our water supply.

This is not, nor should it be, a partisan issue.

GOVERNMENT HEALTH CARE FORCE-FEEDS TAX INCREASES

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the things I heard most from my neighbors at recent town hall health care meetings is they don't want the government in charge of their health. They believe government-run health care means rationing and substandard treatment. And the people in southeast Texas don't want the additional \$800 billion tax increases to pay for what is yet more government intrusion into their lives.

This massive 1,017-page bill requires heavyhanded tax increases to pay for all the new government programs that don't treat one patient, nor will they provide for a healthier America. In this time of economic hardship, no one in America should be force-fed tax increases to pay for this glittering illusion that Big Government is the answer.

America has the best health care in the world. There are problems, such as affordability and access, but complete government takeover is not the answer. Fix these problems rather than destroy American health care.

Does anyone really think the government can do a better job of running the entire medical health of this Nation? This government-run health care plan will have the competence of FEMA, the efficiency of the Post Office, and the compassion of the IRS.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING BELLA VISTA POLICE CHIEF JIM WOZNIAK

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bella Vista Police Chief Jim Wozniak, who has devoted his life to protecting the public, upholding the law, and serving his country.

Wozniak is retiring at the end of September after 38 years in law enforcement, the last 14 as the head of the Bella Vista Police Department. He helped the department grow from nine officers to 20, and he is always looking for ways to improve the police force and the services it offers. He is proud of his department, and rightfully so, because he makes sure his staff put the people first.

His coworkers describe him as a man with a big heart, and I describe him as a friend. Bella Vista will undoubtedly be losing an amazing man who contributed to the safety of the community. We were blessed to have such caring, devoted citizens as Jim.

I commend him for his service as well as his good work and wish him continued success in the future. I ask my colleagues today to join with me in honoring Jim Wozniak, a wonderful public servant who is, and always will be, dedicated to the people of Bella Vista.

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WE'D BETTER LISTEN

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the American people. I had five town-hall meetings this summer. I did a tele-townhall in which I had 19,000 people on the line.

With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, I saw no mobs. I saw nothing that was un-American. I saw no evil mongers out there. I saw average, everyday Americans coming to my townhall meetings in ones and twos and threes, not being bussed in by anybody. They were educated about the issue of health care. They understood what was on the floor. These people are concerned about what we might do here. They are also concerned about taxes, spending, debt, and the size of the Federal Government. No, they were not American mobs. These were real Americans, expressing what they're allowed to do under the Constitution in the best way they can, directly speaking with their Members of Congress. We'd better listen.

GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF HEALTH CARE AND FISCAL IR- RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, since Democrats took control of Washington last January, they have gone on an un-

precedented spending spree with the American taxpayers' credit card. It began with a \$1 trillion stimulus bill, which has only stimulated more government and more debt. Then came a more than \$400 billion omnibus spending bill, followed by a \$3.5 trillion budget for the next fiscal year. Budget officials predict that this year's deficit will reach an historic level of nearly \$2 trillion—money borrowed from our children and grandchildren.

After 6 months of fiscal irresponsibility, they are now pushing for a government takeover of health care that will grow our national debt and will do little to extend quality care to the American people. Despite raising more than \$800 billion in new taxes to pay for this plan, we will also go into debt by \$239 billion over the next 10 years to pay for it.

Republicans have a better plan for health care reform, one that does not saddle our children and grandchildren with a mountain of new debt.

EIGHT YEARS OF RUINOUS REPUBLICAN CONTROL

(Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to respond to some of what I've just heard on the floor of the House of Representatives. I think it's important to know—and certainly my constituents do—that the crushing debt left behind from the last 8 years of ruinous Republican control was a debt inherited by this Congress and this administration because of Republican policies, of the refusal to pay for the programs they undertook, of the willingness to allow PAYGO legislation to expire, to provide a medical care provision in the Medicare D prescription drug benefit that was not paid for, and to have two ruinous wars in Iraq and Afghanistan that were off budget. I think it's important that our constituents understand who was responsible for the debt we now have to manage and the debt we have to get away from.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 179) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 179

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 8 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.